

## *Falco sparverius* (American Kestrel)

### Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

**Class:** Aves (Birds)

**Order:** Falconiformes (Caracaras And Falcons)

**Family:** Falconidae (Falcons)

#### General comments:

Species experiencing widespread decline, potentially related to increased competition for increasingly diminishing access to suitable nest cavities, loss of grassland habitat, pesticides, and predation.

#### Species Conservation Range Maps for American Kestrel:

Town Map: [Falco sparverius\\_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Falco sparverius\\_HUC12.pdf](#)

#### SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

**Risk of Extirpation:** NA

**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:** NA

**Recent Significant Declines:** NA

**Regional Endemic:** NA

**High Regional Conservation Priority:**

**Partners In Flight:**

Regional Species of Concern: Yes, United States and Canada Species of Concern: No, Regional Stewardship Species: No

**High Climate Change Vulnerability:** NA

**Understudied rare taxa:** NA

**Historical:** NA

**Culturally Significant:** NA

#### Habitats Assigned to American Kestrel:

Formation Name	Coastal Scrub-Herb
Macrogroup Name	Coastal Grassland & Shrubland
Habitat System Name: Coastal Grassland & Shrubland Macrogroup - Unknown Habitat System	
Formation Name	Developed
Macrogroup Name	Maintained Grasses and Mixed Cover
Habitat System Name: Urban & Recreational Grasses	
Macrogroup Name	Urban-Suburban Built
Habitat System Name: Residential - Low Intensity	
Habitat System Name: Residential - Rural-Sparse	
Formation Name	Grassland & Shrubland
Macrogroup Name	Ruderal Shrubland & Grassland
Habitat System Name: Powerline Right-of-Way	
Habitat System Name: Ruderal Shrubland & Grassland Macrogroup - Unknown Habitat System	

#### Stressors Assigned to American Kestrel:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to American Kestrel or other Priority 3 SGCN.

#### Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to American Kestrel:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to American Kestrel or other Priority 3 SGCN.

## *Falco sparverius* (American Kestrel)

### Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

**Class:** Aves (Birds)

**Order:** Falconiformes (Caracaras And Falcons)

**Family:** Falconidae (Falcons)

#### Conservation Actions Associated with the Grassland Guild:

<b>Conservation Action</b>	<b>Category:</b> Public Outreach	<b>Biological Priority:</b> high	<b>Type:</b> new
Develop a program to inform small landowners of the best methods for keeping fields open for grassland wildlife			

#### Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Livestock Farming and Ranching

<b>Conservation Action</b>	<b>Category:</b> Species Management	<b>Biological Priority:</b> high	<b>Type:</b> new
Develop a BMP guide for farmers to minimize negative effects of cutting hay/silage during the grassland bird nesting season. NRCS recommendations should be viewed as a start with increased emphasis on timing, field size, and bird behavioral cues.			

#### Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Livestock Farming and Ranching

#### Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

#### Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*